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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XC899]

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC); Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) will hold a meeting of the Ecosystem and Ocean Planning (EOP) Committee. See

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for agenda details.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Thursday, April 27, 2023, from 9:30 a.m. through 4 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will take place over webinar with a telephone-only connection option. Details on how to connect to the meeting will be available at: www.mafmc.org.

Council address: Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 800 N. State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901; telephone: (302) 674-2331; website: www.mafmc.org.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, telephone: (302) 526-5255.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: During this meeting the EOP Committee will discuss development of a process/policy for reviewing exempted fishing permit applications for species designated as ecosystem components under the Council's Unmanaged Forage Omnibus Amendment. The Committee will provide guidance to staff on development of this draft policy/process. The EOP Committee will then meet jointly

with the Advisory Panel (AP) to continue the comprehensive review of the Council's

Ecosystem Approach to the Fisheries Management (EAFM) risk assessment. The

Committee and AP will review and provide feedback on existing and potentially new risk

elements and their definitions for inclusion in an updated risk assessment, Risk elements

identify an aspect that may threaten achieving the biological, economic, or social

objectives that the Council desires from a fishery. Both projects will continue to be

developed with input from the EOP Committee and AP throughout the year with draft

products for Council review and approval anticipated in the fall of 2023.

A detailed agenda and background documents will be made available on the Council's

website (www.mafmc.org) prior to the meeting.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign

language interpretation or other auxiliary aid should be directed to Shelley Spedden,

(302) 526-5251, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 et seg.

Dated: April 6, 2023.

Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director.

Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

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